

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 22003 290841Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03  
FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05  
CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02  
SIL-01 STR-05 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 /110 W  
-----082669 291321Z /45

R 290740Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6870

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

USMISSION GENEVA

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EPAP ECON TH

SUBJECT: INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCE MEETING ON RUBBER-THAI  
POSITION

REF: STATE 214684

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED SUBSTANCE REFTTEL ON SEPTEMBER 28 WITH DR.  
SERMLARD WASUWAT, DIRECTOR OF RUBBER DIVISION, MINISTRY OF AGRI-  
CULTURE, AND THAI REPRESENTATIVE TO ASSOCIATION OF NATURAL  
RUBBER PRODUCING COUNTRIES (ANRPC), INTERNATIONAL RUBBER STUDY  
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 22003 290841Z

GROUP (IRSG) AND UNCTAD CONSULTATIONS ON RUBBER.

2. DR SERMLARD SAID RTG WELCOMES US INITIATIVE IN PROPOSING  
AGENDA FOR FIRST MEETING OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCE ON RUBBER  
(ITFR) AND HAS NO OBJECTION TO ANY OF THE SEVEN SUGGESTED  
DISCUSSION TOPICS. RTG IS PREPARED TO SUPPORT US PROPOSED  
AGENDA IN A "PRE-MEETING" OF ANRPC DELEGATIONS SCHEDULED TO

BEGIN OCTOBER 8, 1977 IN GENEVA BUT FINAL RTG DECISION ON AGENDA WILL DEPEND ON EFFORTS OF ANRPC DELEGATIONS TO FORMULATE COMMON POSITION.

3. DR SERMLARD SAID RTG HAS "DIFFICULTY" WITH US PROPOSAL TO SUBSTITUTE INFORMAL STATEMENT BY CHAIRMAN OF FIRST ITFR MEETING FOR FINAL REPORT. RTG WANTS "BRIEF OFFICIAL STATEMENT" WHICH HAS BEEN AGREED UPON BY ALL PARTICIPANTS OUTLINING PROGRESS MADE AT MEETING. SUCH A STATEMENT WOULD "PROTECT INTERESTS OF COUNTRIES NOT FULLY REPRESENTED" AT MEETING, KEEP ISSUES SETTLED AT FIRST MEETING FROM BEING RAISED AGAIN AT SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS AND SATISFY INTERNAL THAI REQUIREMENTS OF JUSTIFYING EXPENSE OF SENDING DELEGATION TO GENEVA.

4. DR SERMLARD SAID RTG WOULD LIKE TO INTERPRET US INITIATIVE ON AGENDA AS POSITIVE INDICATION US SERIOUS ABOUT WORKING OUT PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR A NATURAL RUBBER PRICE STABILIZATION AGREEMENT. EMBASSY OFFICER CAUTIONED DR SERMLARD THAT USG HAS MADE NO FORMAL COMMITMENT TO PRINCIPLE OF PRICE STABILIZATION AGREEMENT BUT IS OBVIOUSLY PREPARED TO CONSIDER SERIOUSLY RECOMMENDATIONS OF ITFR. DR SERMLARD STRESSED RTG VIEWS ANRPC PRICE STABILIZATION AGREEMENT AS INTERIM ARRANGEMENT PENDING PARTICIPATION OF CONSUMER NATIONS IN BROADER BASED SCHEME. HE SAID RTG CONSIDERS SUPPORT OF US AND JAPAN ESSENTIAL TO PERSUADING OTHER MAJOR CONSUMING NATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY EFFECTIVE, LONG TERM AGREEMENT. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BANGKO 22003 290841Z

MENT.

5. APPROPRIATE ANRPC DR SERMLARD SAID RTG CABINET APPROVED ANRPC PRICE STABILIZATION AGREEMENT ON SEPT 14, 1977, BUT HAS NOT YET SUBMITTED RATIFICATION DOCUMENT DUE TO "LEGAL TECHNICALITY." ARTICLE 8 CALLS FOR FIRST MEETING UNDER AGREEMENT TO TAKE PLACE SIX WEEKS AFTER AGREEMENT COMES INTO FORCE. AS THAI RATIFICATION WOULD BRING AGREEMENT INTO FORCE UNDER ARTICLE 31, RTG, USING STRICT INTERPRETATION OF ARTICLE 8, IS AWAITING WORD FROM KUALA LUMPUR CONCERNING DATE GOM PREPARED TO HOST FIRST MEETING AND WILL SUBMIT FORMAL RATIFICATION DOCUMENT EXACTLY SIX WEEKS PRIOR TO THAT DATE. WHITEHOUSE

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCE MEETING ON RUBBER-THAI POSITION  
**TAGS:** EPAP, ECON, TH, (SERMLARD WASUWAT)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009